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ABSTRACT

This book contains a series of playful activities in which young children actively learn about the African elephant's body structure, family life, and social behavior. Children make model elephants out of paper and cardboard, then devise elephant puppets with sock trunks as well as create models of elephant's ears, trunks, tusks, make elephant sounds, and sing the elephant song. Students gain insight into how elephants live in the wild as they role play using their trunks while foraging for food and searching for water. Children are also introduced to elephant conservation efforts. The activities introduce developmentally appropriate concepts in mathematics and science to young children, building a solid foundation for future learning. Mathematics is strongly integrated throughout the unit as children compare themselves to baby elephants in body size, foot size, and weight. Basic physical science learning takes place as children weigh objects and explore several water-related activities. Dramas and role playing encourage vocabulary development and oral and written communication skills. (SAH)

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